DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 115 375 PS 008 191

AUTHOR	Altshuler, Anne
TITLE	Books That Help Children Deal with a Hospital Experience.
INSTITUTION	Health Services Administration (DHEW/PHS), Rockville, Md. Bureau of Community Health Services.
REPORT NO	DHEW-HSA-74-5402
PUB DATE	74
NOTE	28p.
AVAILABLE FROM	Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402 (Stock Number 1731-0005, $0.50)
EDRS PRICE	MF-$0.76 HC-$1.95 Plus Postage
DESCRIPTORS	*Annotated Bibliographies; *Bibliotherapy; Childrens Books; Elementary School Students; Fear; *Hospitalized Children; *Hospitals; Preschool Children; *Reading Material Selection
IDENTIFIERS	*Illness

ABSTRACT

This booklet was prepared to aid adults in the selection of books related to illness and hospitals and is suitable for use with children about to be hospitalized. The use of books in preparing a child for hospitalization is discussed and guidelines for selecting books for both preschool and elementary school children are presented. A major portion of the booklet consists of an annotated bibliography of books which includes the author, publisher, year of publication, number of pages, type of illustrations, price, age group or school grades for which the book is appropriate, and a brief description of contents. Each entry is also given a rating from excellent to poor based on the realism of the hospital experience presented, how well the story was told, the quality of the illustrations, and the accuracy of the medical information included. (JMB)

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Books That Help Children Deal With A Hospital Experience

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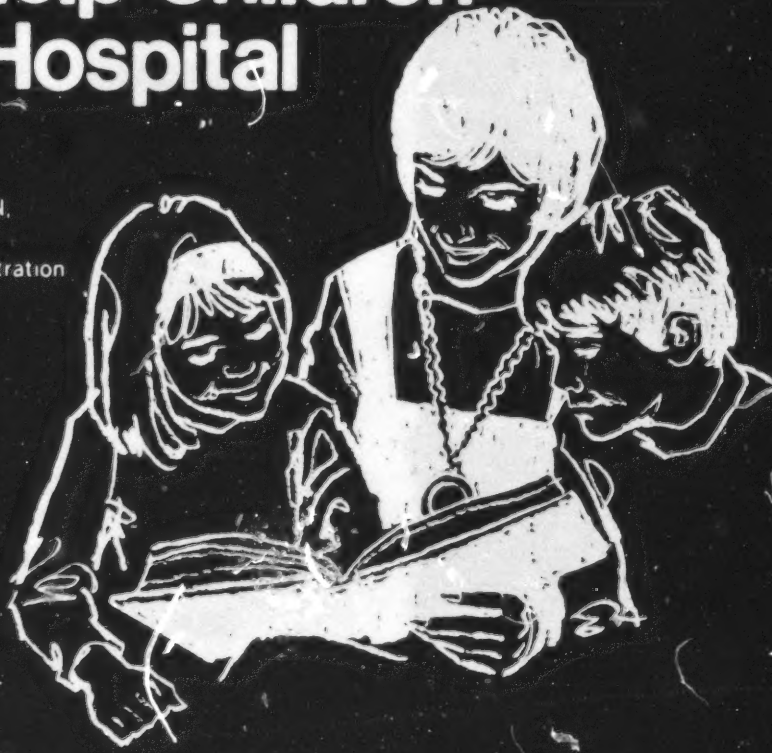

Books That Help Children Deal With A Hospital Experience

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Public Health Service
Health Services Administration
Bureau of Community Health Services
5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, Maryland 20852

DHEW Publication No. (HSA) 74–5402

1974

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For sale by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office
Washington, D.C. 20402 - Price 50 cents
Stock Number 1731-0005

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Foreword

"Books That Help Children Deal With a Hospital Experience" has been prepared in response to requests from parents, nurses, teachers, pediatricians, and physicians in family practice for an up-to-date comprehensive bibliography of children's books on the subjects of illnesses and hospitals. The purpose is to enable adults to select books most suitable to the needs of the child to be hospitalized.

This publication contains a guide to selecting books for preschool and elementary school children. The annotated list of available books evaluates both the overall quality and the accuracy of medical information included.

This publication has been adapted from a bibliography issued by Cooperative Children's Book Center, Madison, Wisconsin, and articles in the following periodicals: The School Library Journal, March 1973, published by R. R. Bowker (a Xerox Company); Newsletter of the Association for Care of Children in Hospitals, June 1973; and Highlights in Nursing, October 1973.

Anne Altshuler, a clinical nurse specialist and assistant clinical professor in nursing at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, is a collector of children's books. She earned a bachelor of arts degree at Oberlin (Ohio) College, a bachelor of science degree in nursing at Columbia University (New York City), and a master of science degree in maternal-child nursing at the University of Colorado. She has worked as a staff nurse in pediatrics at Babies' Hospital in New York and at the University of Washington in Seattle. Before joining the School of Nursing faculty at Wisconsin, she taught pediatric nursing at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia.

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00005

Contents

1	Use of Books To Prepare a Child for the Hospital
2	Does the Book Meet the Special Needs of the Individual Child?
2	Type of Illness
3	Specific Institution
4	Age
4	Characters With Whom To Identify
4	Does the Book Present a Realistic Picture of the Hospital Experience?
5	Is the Story Well Told, With Illustrations of a High Artistic Quality That Appeal to Children?
7	Annotated Bibliography
19	Publishers
21	Index to Book Titles

00006

Use of Books To Prepare a Child for the Hospital

When a child must be hospitalized, he is faced with a whole new world of painful and frightening experiences. At a time when he is feeling ill and when his resources are possibly at their lowest ebb, he is expected to adjust to the strange environment of a hospital. The traumatizing effects of this experience on the child have become widely recognized.

Efforts are now being made to ease the child's adjustment to illness and hospitalization. Children are being treated at home whenever feasible, thus lessening or even avoiding the need for hospitalization. Hospitals are liberalizing visiting hours and rooming-in programs for parents, and many staffs realize the importance of welcoming family members as participants in the ill child's care. School and recreational programs are being used to make the hospital stay a more natural and relaxed time for young patients. Nurses are wearing colored uniforms or street clothes as part of the effort to make the hospital atmosphere more friendly.

Honest, thoughtful preparation for hospital experiences is being encouraged. Preadmission visits to hospitals are being scheduled in many areas to familiarize both healthy children and prospective patients with the workings of the hospital world. But many children still enter the hospital unprepared for the experiences they will encounter.

One of the many avenues available for preparing a child to deal with hospitalization lies in the use of books to familiarize him in advance with the hospital setting. Such books have been available for some time, and new ones are published yearly.

Probably a parent is the best person to read a book about hospitals with a young child. Using either story or illustrations or both, the parent can digress from what the book presents to raise questions, clarify areas of confusion, and touch on additional points so the child gradually becomes at ease with the idea of going to the hospital. Usually it is

00007

best to let the child set his own pace for receiving new information.

Nurses, school teachers, librarians, and other familiar or concerned adults may also use a book to assist a child in working through his feelings about hospitalization.

A good book can provide a jumping-off point for discussion of a forthcoming hospital stay. It can help prepare a child for unfamiliar routines, equipment, and personnel. It can stimulate questions and expressions of feelings about the child's body, the illness or defect, and the treatment measures that have been prescribed. It can also be used to assure the hospitalized child that his questions and reactions are normal. Rereading of such books after returning home can help a child integrate the hospital experiences into his life in a growth-producing way.

A compilation of children's books on hospitalization was prepared by Vera F. Flandorf in 1967.[1] It has been a useful resource in selecting books for a library within a children's hospital. However, many new books have become available since Flandorf's listing was published.

Books to prepare a child for hospital experiences should be selected carefully. Wisely used, books can be of real benefit to a child; inappropriate books can result in harm or conflict. In selecting books to help a child learn about the hospital, several questions should be considered.

Does the book meet the special needs of the individual child?

A great many books about hospitals are aimed at a specific audience.

Type of illness

A number of books deal with children undergoing treatment or operations for specific illnesses. For example, "Danny Goes to the Hospital" by James Lincoln Collier, discusses the experiences of a boy confronting a short hospitalization for repair of strabismus or crossed eyes, a fairly common opera-

1. Flandorf, Vera F. (Compiler): "Books to Help Children Adjust to a Hospital Situation." Chicago: American Library Association, 1967.

00008

tion. Angelika Wolff's 'Mom! I Broke My Arm!" is written to explain casts and broken bones to children. Children undergo appendectomies in such books as "Linda Goes to the Hospital" by Nancy Dudley, "The Ambulance" by Ann Mari Falk, "The Operation That Happened to Rupert Piper" by Ethelyn Parkinson, "Elizabeth Gets Well" by Alfons Weber, and "Johnny Goes to the Hospital" by Josephine Abbott Sever.

Books dealing specifically with tonsillectomies include "I Think I Will Go to the Hospital" by Jean Tamburine, "What Happens When You Go to the Hospital" by Arthur Shay, "Pop-Up Going to the Hospital" by Bettina Clark and Lester L. Coleman, "A Visit to the Hospital" by Francine Chase, and "A Hospital Story" by Sara Bonnett Stein. "The Hospital Sandman" discusses anesthesia and operations, and "The Hospital See-Through Machine" takes an in-depth look at the X-ray department; both books are by John Welzenbach and Nancy Cline.

Many of the books dealing with specific illnesses can be used to prepare youngsters for the fact that there will be children in the hospital with illnesses different from their own.

There is still a lack of appropriate books for children with chronic illnesses or with birth defects. Almost all the stories focus on short-term admissions and return the children to perfect health before they leave the hospital. A book that tells the story about a child who is discharged 1 or 2 days after admission may not be meaningful to the child who is facing long-term hospitalization. Terry Berger's book "I Have Feelings" has been used successfully to help children faced with long hospitalization express their reactions.[2]

Specific institution

Staffs of many hospitals have prepared booklets to explain what life is like in the settings in which they work. Although written for patients coming to specific institutions, some of these books can be adapted for use by children being admitted to other

2. Berger, Terry: "I Have Feelings." New York: Behavioral Publications, Inc., 1971.

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hospitals. One of the most widely known books is "The Hospital Book," which Barbara Schuyler Haas wrote about Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore. "Michael's Heart Test" and "Margaret's Heart Operation" explain cardiac catheterization and operations on the heart for children entering the Childrens' Hospital of Philadelphia.

Age

Books are generally written for children of a special age level. Most current children's books about hospital experiences are appropriate for some or all ages between 3 and 10. Some of the books are written with simple words and have large, easy-to-read print that second and third graders can read by themselves. Books that are too advanced for a young child to use alone may be read aloud by an adult or shown in discussing situations pictured.

Characters with whom to identify

Books can be found with both boys and girls as the main characters. Enough children appear in most stories to allow girls to enjoy books in which the main character is a boy, and vice versa. In two books, "What Happens When You Go to the Hospital" by Arthur Shay and "The Clinic" by Eleanor Kay, the main characters are black—a 7-year-old girl in the former and a small boy in the latter.

Youngsters delight in hearing about characters they have known in other books. Nearly all children can identify with the monkey whose adventures are recounted in several books, including "Curious George Goes to the Hospital" by H. A. and Margret Rey. Bemelman's "Madeline" and Ethelyn Parkinson's "The Operation that Happened to Rupert Piper" are other examples. Children who have read and enjoyed books of this kind before hospitalization may want to bring the familiar book from home for rereading in the hospital.

Does the book present a realistic picture of the hospital experience?

No book can simulate any child's experience exactly, yet books can describe the experiences that most children who go to a hospital will encounter.

39910

Although it is unwise to overwhelm children with details or frighten them needlessly, children should be told that some procedures in the hospital will hurt and make them angry. There will be occasions when children cannot eat or drink even when they feel hungry or thirsty. They will feel sad, lonely, and homesick when their parents, their friends, or their pets cannot be with them. It is natural to be scared in the hospital, and this feeling does not bespeak cowardice or failure on the child's part. Books that gloss over or ignore these natural responses may increase the child's feelings of loneliness and inadequacy.

Many myths have been unintentionally perpetuated through books that portray hospital experiences inaccurately. For example, injections do not feel like mosquito bites. The arm rarely is the site of intramuscular injections for hospitalized children; the thigh or buttock frequently is. Preoperative medications before anesthesia are almost always given by injection. Children rarely walk hand-in-hand with their doctors to the operating room. Ice cream does not necessarily taste wonderful to a child whose throat is sore after a tonsillectomy. Nurses in a children's hospital unit are not always dressed in white uniforms and caps.

Books that imply good health is entirely under the child's control may deepen the sense of guilt in a school-ager who already blames himself for his illness. Yet these misconceptions and others appear again and again in books for children—even books written or approved by medical or nursing personnel.

Books about hospitals should prepare children for the potentially pleasant aspects as well as for frightening and uncomfortable experiences. Any book used to explain hospitals and illnesses to children should present an accurate, fair, and balanced picture of hospitalization.

Is the story well told, with illustrations of a high artistic quality that appeal to children?

Some books give adequate facts about illnesses and hospitals, but are written in such a stilted, formal style or contain such uninspired illustrations that children soon lose interest in reading them.

00011

Other books present imaginative, lively, and well-written stories that will capture a child's interest in addition to supplying him with information about the hospital settings. Among these are "Curious George Goes to the Hospital," "Madeline," "I Think I Will Go to the Hospital," "Bettina's Secret," "The Operation that Happened to Rupert Piper," and "Elizabeth Gets Well."

Among the books with imaginative and appealing illustrations are "Elizabeth Gets Well," "Madeline," "The Ambulance," "I Think I Will Go To the Hospital," "What Happens When You Go to the Hospital," "My Friend the Doctor," 'Pop-Up Going to the Hospital," "Linda Goes to the Hospital," "My Doctor," "Tommy Goes to the Doctor," "Nicky Goes to the Doctor," and the series of four books by Welzenbach and Cline: Hello Hospital!" "The Hospital See-Through Machine," "The Hospital Sandman," and "A 'Mill-Yun' Hospital Questions."

00012

Annotated Bibliography

This annotated bibliography lists books for children that discuss hospital experiences and illnesses. Most of these books are written for preschool or elementary school children; some appeal to children up to the ninth grade.

A few books that do not deal directly with hospitalization have been included because they were evaluated as good sources of help for hospitalized children or children faced with treatment in an outpatient setting. Books about nurses and careers in hospital work written for teenage girls have not been included.

The listings include author, publisher, year of publication, number of pages, type of illustrations, price, age group or school grades for which the book is appropriate, and a brief description of contents. The author has evaluated all books in the bibliography, using the following ratings: excellent, very good, good, fair, poor.

Books marked with an asterisk (*) are suggested for a basic library of a children's hospital unit.

Publishers' addresses are listed on page 19. Books that are not available in local stores may be ordered from the publishers. Since prices of books are subject to change, the cost should be verified at the time a book is ordered.

Bartosh, Julia A. **Kenny Visits the Hospital.** Jericho, N.Y.: Exposition Press. 1956. 62 pp. Illustrated with black and white photos. Grades kindergarten to 3. $3.50 Poor.

Kenny loves all aspects of his hospital experience in this outdated, unrealistic portrayal of a hospital stay. He thinks that a blood test is "great fun" and smiles during an immunization, which he finds "didn't amount to anything." Photographs are out-of-date.

*Bemelmans, Ludwig. **Madeline.** New York: Viking Press. 1939. 27 pp. Full-color illustrations by the author. Ages 3 to 9. $3.50. Paperback, $1.25. Also available in Little Golden Books edition from Simon & Schuster, 1954, 25 cents. Very good.

A much-loved classic, this book used rhymed verse to describe the adventures of a little girl at a French con-

00013

vent school. Madeline is pictured crying from a stomach ache, going to the hospital by ambulance, showing her friends her scar after her appendectomy, and staying in a bed that cranks up and down. The book may be used with children before hospitalization is anticipated, and taken as a familiar companion if the child enters a hospital. It has little information about actual hospital experiences.

Bendick, Jeanne. **Have a Happy Measle, a Merry Mumps and a Cheery Chickenpox.** New York: McGraw-Hill Book Company. 1958. 45 pp. Illustrated in four colors by the author. Grades k to 3. $3.50. Good.

Stories, poems, and health hints for children when they are ill at home.

Brewer, Joan; Casucci, Pat; Elliott, Mary. **Operation Timothy.** Beloit, Wis.: Junior Women's Club. 1965. 14 pp. Ages 4 to 8. 25 cents. Coloring book. Poor.

This story is told in forced rhyme. Timothy goes to the hospital with a stomach ache, and is shown smiling gaily throughout his experience. The story introduces taking of weight, finger pricking for blood, hospital bed and gown, stretcher, operating room, bedpan, and lunch in bed. Tim is taken to the operating room without warning or preparation.

Chase, Francine. **A Visit to the Hospital.** New York: Grosset & Dunlap. 1957. 68 pp. Illustrated in three colors by James Bama. Ages 4 to 8. $2.50. Also available in a Wonder Books edition, 18 pp., 39 cents, with full-color illustrations by Ken Rossi. Fair to good.

Stevie, a lively youngster, is helped by loving and supportive parents and an older brother as he goes to the hospital to have his tonsils out. His parents are able to be with him most of the time he is hospitalized. The picture given of Stevie walking to the operating room hand-in-hand with his doctor portrays an unrealistic situation. No injections are mentioned. Illustrations are well done, but clothing reflects the fashions of the 1950s.

*Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. **Michael's Heart Test.** Philadelphia, Pa.: Children's Hospital. 1967. 14 pp. Illustrated with black and white photos. Ages 3 to 12. Paperback, 15 cents. Excellent.

This clearly written account takes a boy step-by-step through a cardiac catheterization. The story follows procedures at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, but can be easily adapted for children undergoing the procedure at other hospitals.

*Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. **Margaret's Heart Operation.** Philadelphia: Children's Hospital. 1969. 14 pp. Illustrated with black and white photos. Ages 3 to 12. Paperback, 15 cents. Excellent.

A detailed and matter-of-fact account of 6-year-old Margaret, who is having an operation on her heart. This

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book discusses preoperative tests and preparation, intensive care unit, and the postoperative recovery period. Injections and postoperative pain are mentioned.

Clark, Bettina; Coleman, Lester L. **Pop-Up Going to the Hospital.** New York: Random House. 1971. 18 pp. Full-color illustrations by Walter Swartz. Grades k to 3. $2.50. Good to very good.

This well-told story about Andy's tonsillectomy has bright, imaginative illustrations and includes a mask for child to wear. The book has a sturdy, washable cover, but the pop-up pictures may not stand up well with heavy use. Andy is not allowed to eat before his operation, has a finger stick for blood sample, breathes "special air" in the operating room to make him fall asleep, wakes up in the recovery room, and has a sore throat. Items of misinformation include receiving an injection which is said to feel like a mosquito bite, walking hand-in-hand with his doctor to the operation, and eating ice cream after he wakes up. The book emphasizes the pleasant aspects of hospitalization.

Collier, James Lincoln. **Danny Goes to the Hospital.** New York: W. W. Norton & Company, Inc. 1970. 42 pp. Illustrated with black and white photos by Yale Joel. Grades k to 3. $3.50. Fair.

This story, written in fairly stilted prose, is about a boy who is hospitalized briefly for surgical correction of strabismus, or crossed eyes. It follows Danny step-by-step through admission, operation, and discharge. The photos show the hospital laundry, food service, four adults holding down a screaming child to get his finger stuck for a blood test, the operating and recovery rooms, playroom, a frowning nurse, and Danny playing at home after he is well.

Cosgrove, Margaret. **Your Hospital, A Modern Miracle.** New York: Dodd, Mead & Company. 1962. 60 pp. Illustrated in black, white, and red by the author. Grades 4 to 8. $3.95. Fair to good.

This book contains descriptions of various activities and areas of the hospital, including the kitchen, laundry, occupational and physical therapy rooms, central supply, special equipment, and the staff.

Coy, Harold. **The First Book of Hospitals.** New York: Franklin Watts, Inc. 1964. 79 pp. Illustrated with black and white photos. Grades 4 to 8. $3.75. Fair to good.

This book gives an introduction to hospital departments and staff through the eyes of a high-school-age Candy Striper. It includes a glossary of hospital terms and hospital career information. Photographs are somewhat dated.

*Deegan, Paul J. **A Hospital: Life in a Medical Center.** Mankato, Minn.: Amecus Street, Inc. 1971. 79 pp. Illustrated with black and white photos by B. C. Ross-Larson. grades 4 to 7. $5.95. Excellent.

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This is a well-written factual description of the workings of a large city hospital. It defines areas from blood bank to operating room to cafeteria, as well as medical subspecialties. Little information is given about what it feels like to be a hospital patient.

*Dudley, Nancy. **Linda Goes to the Hospital.** New York: Coward-McCann & Geoghegan, Inc. 1953. 48 pp. Illustrated in blue, black, and white crayon drawings by Sofia. Grades k to 4. $2.50. Out-of-print, but may be available in libraries. Good to very good.

Six-year-old Linda goes to the hospital to have her appendix removed. This book introduces hospital gowns, high beds with curtains that can be pulled around them for privacy, doctors' examinations including abdominal palpation, enemas, a play program, and helpful nurses. Parents leave and return. No mention is made of injections, intravenous fluid therapy, or withholding of food. Linda cries at times, but the emphasis is on bravery and cooperation. She is both sad and happy at going home.

*Falk, Ann Mari. **The Ambulance.** Toronto: Burke Publishing Co., Ltd. 1966. Translated by Irene D. Morris. 22 pp. Full-color illustrations by Tord Nygren. Ages 3 to 9. $3.95 (Canadian). Excellent.

When 5-year-old Tom has an attack of appendicitis, an ambulance comes to take him to the hospital. There he has an emergency operation. Tom reacts naturally to getting an injection, having his parents leave, taking oral medications, and walking for the first time after his appendectomy. Nurses and doctors are presented as friendly, concerned people. This book has outstanding illustrations and large, easy-to-read print.

Feagles, Anita MacRae. **Emergency Room.** New York: Cowles Book Company, Inc. 1970. 85 pp. Illustrated with black and white photos. Grades 5 to 9. $3.95. Fair.

The daily workings of a hospital emergency room are described through the eyes of a high school volunteer. Nursing management of the patients is in a flip, unprofessional manner.

*Froman, Robert. **Let's Find Out About the Clinic.** New York: Franklin Watts, Inc., 1968. 47 pp. Two-color illustrations by Joseph Veno. Grades k to 3. $3.75. Good to very good.

Written in simple language and printed in large type that a second grader could read by himself, this book describes clinic personnel and procedures. It covers finger stick for a blood specimen, immunizations, eye testing, scales, thermometers, otoscope, stethoscope, blood pressure apparatus, and X-rays.

Greene, Carla. **Doctors and Nurses: What Do They Do?** New York: Harper and Row. 1963. 64 pp. Illustrated in color by Leonard Kessler, grades k to 3. $2.50. Good.

This book describes activities of a doctor and nurse as they relate to child care in the hospital, school, office, and

33046

home. The text touches on a child's experiences in the hospital in relation to bed bath, eating in bed, having the bed made, going to the operating room on a cart, having temperature and pulse taken, and taking oral medication. Only pleasant aspects of hospitalization are mentioned.

Guy, Anne Welsh. **Good-Bye Tonsils.** New York: Western Publishing Company, Inc. 1971. (A Golden Press Book.) 24 pp. Full-color illustrations by Frank Vaughn. Grades k to 3. 39 cents. Fair.

Hospitalization is viewed as a happy experience for Mary Ann, who has her tonsils out. The text mentions taking a blood specimen ("It didn't hurt!"), having food withheld, bringing a favorite toy to the hospital, wearing a wrist identification band, walking hand-in-hand to the operating room with the doctor, waking up with a sore throat, feeling cross after the operation, eating ice cream, and going home the next day.

*Haas, Barbara Schuyler. **The Hospital Book.** Baltimore, Md.: The John Street Press. 1970. 48 pp. Coloring book illustrated in black and white by Lun Harris. Ages 4 to 10. $1.50, very good to excellent.

A balanced view of pleasant and unpleasant aspects of hospitalization is presented. This book introduces admission procedures; hospital food, beds, call bell; injections, finger stick, temperature, and blood pressure; use of such equipment as an otoscope, X-ray, oxygen tent, intravenous fluid therapy, and wheelchair; traction for broken bones; and play and school programs. Simple diagrams of major organs and bones are included.

*Hallqvist, Britt G. **Bettina's Secret.** New York: Harcourt Brace and World, Inc. 1967. Translated from Swedish by Anne Parker. 127 pp. Illustrated by Marjorie-Ann Watts. Grades 3 to 7. $3.50. Good to very good.

When 10-year-old Bettina is hospitalized with a broken leg, her stay is enlivened by meetings with a mysterious nurse who visits lonely patients at night. Although the Swedish hospital differs from American ones in several ways, a balanced picture of hospital life is presented. Bettina finds both companionship and loneliness, new interests as well as homesickness and boredom. Details about hospitalization such as X-ray examinations, bedpans, bedrest, and hospital food are included.

Hammond, Diana. **Let's Go to a Hospital.** New York: G.P. Putnam's Sons. 1959. 45 pp. Illustrations in black, white, and blue by Marvin Zetlan. Grades 2 to 6. $1.95. Out-of-print, but may be available in libraries. Fair.

This book makes a matter-of-fact presentation of what a child can expect when he is hospitalized for a tonsillectomy. It introduces many details of hospital experience—admission, personnel, routines. It is written in formal stilted language and the illustrations show outdated clothes.

*Kay, Eleanor. **The Clinic.** New York: Franklin Watts, Inc. 1971. 51 pp. Illustrated with black and white photos. Grades 4 to 6. $3.75. Good to very good.

The story takes a small black boy through his first visit to a clinic, explaining history taking, the physical setup, and general routines of clinics.

Kay, Eleanor. **The Emergency Room.** New York: Franklin Watts, Inc. 1970. 63 pp. Illustrated with black and white photos. Grades 5 to 7. $3.75 Excellent.

The experiences of an 11-year-old boy, injured while playing at a construction site, are followed from arrival at a hospital emergency room through examination and treatment. The way the hospital staff handles many types of emergencies and the use of equipment are described in detail.

Kay, Eleanor. **Let's Find Out About the Hospital.** New York: Franklin Watts, Inc. 1971. 48 pp. Illustrated in green, black, and white by William Brooks. Grades k to 3. $3.75. Fair.

This book introduces hospital staff, departments, routines (oral medications, siderails on beds, wheelchairs, play, visiting hours, etc.). Emphasis is placed on cleanliness of the hospital. There is no preparation for unpleasant experiences; instead, a child is shown reacting unnaturally with a smile as his finger is stuck for a blood test.

Kay, Eleanor. **The Operating Room.** New York: Franklin Watts, Inc. 1970. 59 pp. Illustrated with black and white photos. Grades 4 to 7. $3.75 Very good.

Junior high school football player Mike goes to the hospital for a biopsy of a mole on his shoulder. The story takes him through admission physical examination, preoperative preparation, and the surgical procedure. The book also tells the reader about the operating room, its staff, equipment, and routines.

Lerner, Marguerite Rush. **Doctors' Tools.** (2nd ed.) Minneapolis, Minn.: Medical Books for Children. 1960. Illustrated in three colors by George Overlie. Grades k to 6. $2.95. Fair to good.

This book explains some of the tools found in a doctor's medical kit or clinic, such as scale, stethoscope, and thermometer.

Media Medica, Inc. **Jimmy and Susie at the Hospital (A Child's First Hospital Stay).** New York: Media Medica. 1969. 30 pp. Full-color illustrations. Ages 3 to 7. Paperback: $4.75 Good to very good.

This is a package that contains booklets for parents and child, a phonograph record, and crayons. It gives a step-by-step description of two 5-year-old children who go to the hospital for hernia repair and tonsillectomy. The story includes the childrens' adventures in packing a suitcase at home, wearing identification tags, dressing in

pajamas in the daytime, crying when their parents leave the hospital, undergoing finger sticks for blood tests, having X-rays, injections in the arm, going on a cart to the operating room, breathing "sleepy air," having a sore throat, and going home the next day.

New Britain General Hospital. **Get-Well Coloring Book.** New Britain, Conn.: NBGH Women's Auxiliary, 1956. 16 pp. Illustrated by Florence Hunter. Ages 5 to 10. 24 cents. Fair.

This coloring book introduces thermometers, otoscopes, stethoscopes, Isolettes, oxygen tents, traction, X-rays, and intravenous fluid therapy equipment. The children are portrayed with unnatural smiles throughout their stays in the hospital.

Parkinson, Ethelyn M. **The Operation That Happened to Rupert Piper.** Nashville, Tenn.: Abington Press. 1966. 176 pp. Illustrated by Gloria Kamen. Grades 3 to 7. $3.25. Out-of-print, but may be available in libraries. Good.

Rupert secretly takes the hospital bed of his friend Milt for a few hours. Rupert then has his appendix removed--something his parents and the doctor have been trying to persuade him to do for a long time. While recovering, Rupert makes friends with other patients, including Hugh, who is undergoing tests for cancer of the bone. The biopsy is negative, and he does not need surgery. The possible effects this story might have on children afflicted with cancer must be considered. The nurses and doctors, who are portrayed as sympathetic, play little part in the hospital world of the children. The picture of the hospital bears little resemblance to what a child might actually experience. The story is well-told, but inaccurate and misleading at many points.

Pope, Billy N.; Emmons, Ramona Ware. **Let's Go to the Doctor's Office.** Dallas, Tex.: Taylor Publishing Company. 1967. 32 pp. Illustrated with full-color photos. Ages 3 to 7. $3.00. Very good.

This book describes visits to a doctor and a dentist. At the doctor's office the children get immunizations, an eye examination, height and weight measurements, and an ear examination with an otoscope. The doctor also takes the children's blood pressure, uses a reflex hammer, and palpates the abdomen. The dentist looks at the child's teeth and gums with a mirror and a light, gives a toothbrushing demonstration, and takes X-rays that show no cavities. Realistic pictures are combined with somewhat stilted language. The book has large, easy-to-read print.

Pope, Billy N.; Emmons, Ramona Ware. **Let's Visit the Hospital.** Dallas, Tex.: Taylor Publishing Company. 1968. 32 pp. Illustrated with full-color photos. Ages 3 to 7. $3.00. Good.

A student nurse takes three children on tour of a hospital. They visit the admitting office, chapel, food service department, mail room, laundry, beauty shop, occupational and physical therapy departments, medical library,

09019

record room, and patient rooms. No mention is made of how it feels to be a patient or what happens to children in a hospital.

*Rey, H. A.; Rey, Margret. **Curious George Goes to the Hospital.** Boston, Mass.: Houghton Mifflin Company. 1966. 48 pp. Illustrated in red, black, and white drawings. Ages 3 to 8. $3.75. Also available in paperback from Scholastic Book Services, .75 cents. Excellent.

George is a mischievous monkey, already known to many children from adventures in six previous books. He swallows a piece of a jigsaw puzzle and has to go to the hospital for an operation, taking his favorite rubber ball along for comfort. He has a barium swallow in the X-ray department. He cries when his visitor leaves and lets out a scream even before he gets his preoperative injection, only to find it was not as bad as he expected it to be. Illustrations show details of the clinic waiting area, operating room, children's ward, and playroom. George recovers and is able to delight other child patients, including the frightened little girl in the next bed. The book may be used before, during, or after hospitalization.

Rockwell, Harlow. **My Doctor.** New York: Macmillan Publishing Co. 1973. 20 pp. Full-color illustrations by the author. Ages 3 to 7. $4.95. Very good to excellent.

A visit to a lady pediatrician is clearly and beautifully illustrated. Equipment encountered includes stethoscope, blood pressure cuff, tongue blade, eye chart, scale, reflex hammer, thermometer, adhesive bandage strips, oral polio vaccine, alcohol, and syringe ("but I don't need one today"). The book does not discuss a child's feelings about illness and hospitalization.

Rowland, Florence Wightman. **Let's Go to a Hospital.** New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons. 1968. 45 pp. Two-color illustrations by Charles Dougherty. Ages 4 to 9. $2.98. Fair.

This book gives a step-by-step description of going to the hospital for a tonsillectomy. It pictures a modern hospital with built-in TVs and push-button intercoms. Administration offices, kitchen, laundry, and training of doctors and nurses are also described. Print is large, but language is somewhat stilted.

Scarry, Richard. **Richard Scarry's Nicky Goes to the Doctor.** Racine, Wis.: Western Publishing Company, Inc. 1971. 24 pp. Full-color illustrations by the author. Ages 3 to 6. $1.95. Very good.

Nicky Bunny goes to the doctor for a checkup. Nicky is carefully weighed and his height is measured. The doctor performs an abdominal palpation, looks at Nicky's throat and ears, listens to his chest and heart with a stethoscope, uses a reflex hammer, and gives an eye test. Nicky is shown smiling unnaturally as he receives an injection. Colorful, and imaginative pictures. Well-written.

00020

Schima, Marilyn; Polian, Polly. **I Know a Nurse.** New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons. 1969. 47 pp. Illustrations in black, white, and green. Grades 1 to 3. $2.86. Very good to excellent.

The school nurse visits a second-grade class to explain the roles of nurses in schools, communities, hospitals, on ships, and in factories. Although a child's hospital experience is not the major focus, the book mentions wearing a hospital gown; eating from a tray; playing and reading stories; having temperature, pulse, and blood pressure taken, and getting a bath, backrub, and a bandage changed after an operation.

*Sever, Josephine Abbott. **Johnny Goes to the Hospital.** Boston, Mass.: Houghton Mifflin Company. 1953. 32 pp. Full-color illustrations by Mary Stevens. Ages 4 to 10. $1.50 Paperback. $1.00. Out-of-print, but may be available in libraries. Good to very good.

Johnny goes to the hospital for an operation to help his aching stomach. X-rays, finger stick for blood test, eating in bed, wearing hospital clothing, riding in a wheelchair, and participating in the play program are all described in clear, simple language. Emphasis is placed on the fact that Johnny is made well again and soon goes home. He is portrayed as an unusually placid and cooperative child.

*Shay, Arthur. **What Happens When You Go to the Hospital.** Chicago, Ill.: Reilly and Lee. 1969. Illustrated with black and white photos. Ages 3 to 10. $4.50 Very good to excellent.

Karen is a black child, about 7 years old, who goes to the hospital to have her tonsils out. She brings her doll with her, is curious about the other children, makes friends with her nurse, and cries over an X-ray examination until she finds it doesn't hurt. She is upset when her parents leave for the night, and objects to the siderails on her bed. She is shown smiling and holding up a bottle with her tonsils in the recovery room, and also enjoying all the ice cream she can eat—both unrealistic situations. Otherwise the story portrays an honest picture of an overnight hospital stay.

Simmons, Ellie. **I Went to the Hospital.** Ithaca, N. Y.: Tompkins County Hospital Auxiliary. 1958. 20 pp. Four-color illustrations by the author. Ages 2 to 5. 35 cents. Very good.

A small child describes his trip to the hospital for an operation. His experiences include riding in a wheelchair, having a finger prick and X-ray, sleeping in a hospital bed, receiving a preoperative "sleepy pill" and "sleepy shot," riding on a table with wheels, using a bedpan, playing in bed and in a playroom, receiving mail and a present, and going home. Wording is simple and clear. Illustrations are charmingly drawn, but show the child and hospital workers smiling through all aspects of the experience, including the injection. Parents remain close

00021

except at night, when the nurse "stayed up all night with her light on."

*Stein, Sara Bonnett. **A Hospital Story.** New York: Walker and Company. 1974. 47 pp. Black and white and color photographs by Dick Frank and Doris Pinney. Ages 3 to 10. $4.50. Excellent.

One of an outstanding series of "open family books" for parents and children to read together. Suggestions for parents in helping a child cope with a hospital experience are included side by side with the large print text for children. The story follows Jill through her hospitalization for a tonsillectomy. The parents' feelings are dealt with openly and honestly. An outstanding book.

Talbot, Winnifred. **Happy Hospital Surprises.** Minneapolis, Minn.: Denison Books, 1961. 32 pp. Illustrated in 4 colors by Lawrence Spiegel. Grades 1 to 3. $3.99. Poor to fair.

Five-year-old Larry goes to the hospital for an appendectomy. This book shows Larry packing for the hospital, meeting his nurse and doctors, and going to the operating room. He is cranky and sleepy upon awakening; the nurse accepts his mood, but unfortunately his mother does not. The story highlights the presents Larry receives, the food he eats, and rides he takes in a wheelchair. While Larry receives no injection, either before or after the operation, he is given fluids by mouth immediately after the operation. There is no mention of any pain during the hospitalization. Larry does not walk in the hospital after his operation and the only picture of him at home shows him sitting down. The story and drawings give an inaccurate picture of the treatment at the hospital of children with other illnesses, including juvenile diabetes and severe burns.

*Tamburine, Jean. **I Think I Will Go to the Hospital.** Nashville, Tenn.: Abingdon Press. 1965. 48 pp. Illustrated in 4-color drawings by the author. Ages 3 to 10. $3.50. Excellent.

This is a beautifully illustrated, honest presentation of both unpleasant and pleasant aspects of having a tonsillectomy. Susy does not feel ready to go to the hospital, so she visits first. Not wanting to go is accepted as a natural feeling. The book introduces the smell of the hospital, casts, wheelchairs, temperatures, X-rays, blood tests, having a throat examination with a flashlight, going to the operating room on a cart, use of a call bell to summon a nurse, eating soft foods such as ice cream and soup, and having a few days of sore throat after the operation.

Thompson, Frances B. **About Miss Sue, the Nurse.** Chicago, Ill.: Melmont Publishers, Inc. 1961. 31 pp. Illustrated in black, white, and pink by James David Johnson. Grades k to 3. $3.00. Fair.

A nurse is shown at work in the children's unit of a large hospital. She takes her patients' temperatures,

00022

applies bandages, combs their hair, gives drinks, baths, and backrubs. The children are hospitalized for tonsillectomy, a broken leg, a back injury, and multiple injuries received in a car accident. Hospital shifts, white uniforms and caps, and training of nurses are also briefly described. Everything is portrayed positively. No mention is made of the children's feelings about hospitalization, parents, visiting hours, treatment, pain, loneliness, or play. Writing style is stilted; illustrations are dated.

*Watson, Jane Werner; Switzer, Robert E.; Hirschberg, J. Cotter. **My Friend the Doctor.** New York: Golden Press. 1972. 24 pp. Illustrated in 3 colors by Hilde Hoffman. Ages 2 to 5. $1.95. Excellent.

This read-together book for parents and children was created in cooperation with the Menninger Foundation. It is intended to introduce a 3-year-old child to the concept of illness and the ways his doctor helps him keep well. The story describes a visit to the doctor where the child meets a nurse, and has a physical examination plus an injection, finger stick, and rectal temperature taken. It also shows the doctor's visit to a child ill at home. Lively illustrations.

*Weber, Alfons. **Elizabeth Gets Well.** New York: Thomas Y. Crowell Company. 1970. 28 pp. Full-color illustrations by Jacqueline Blass. Ages 5 to 9. $4.50. Excellent.

This is a well-told, beautifully illustrated story about hospital experiences. After Elizabeth gets sick at school, the doctor visits her at home, and sends her to the hospital for an appendectomy. The book describes a preoperative injection which causes a dry mouth, the operating room, intravenous fluids, progression from inability to take fluid to a more normal diet, thirst as a problem, presence of stitches, blood tests from finger and arm, casts and their removal, and taking of X-rays. Nurses are seen as helpful, caring persons. The book includes references to siblings and their feelings about Elizabeth's illness and hospitalization.

*Welzenbach, John F.; Cline, Nancy.
Wendy Well and Billy Better say "Hello Hospital!" 58 pp.
Wendy Well and Billy Better Visit the Hospital See-Through Machine. 36 pp.
Wendy Well and Billy Better Meet the Hospital Sandman. 36 pp.
Wendy Well and Billy Better Ask a "Mill-Yun" Hospital Questions. 36 pp.
Chicago, Ill.: Med-Educator, Inc. 1970. Illustrated with black and white photos by Roger Ruhlin and full-color illustrations by Linda Avey. Ages 3 to 12. $3.25 each or $13 per set of 4. Excellent. A 14-minute sound, color filmstrip is also available.

The hospital is viewed in detail through the eyes of two children, Wendy Well and Billy Better. The first book is an overall introduction to the hospital that covers everything from bedpans to Intermittent Positive Pres-

00023

sure Breathing (IPPB) treatments. The second book is about the X-ray department and includes information on barium swallows and radiation therapy. The third book is about the operating room, anesthesia ("sleepy air"), and the recovery room. The fourth book asks general questions and gives children's answers. All books give a realistic, balanced picture of hospital experience. They present technical terms and give more detail than most books, but in a nonthreatening manner. Illustrations are bright and lively; the type may be difficult for children to read.

*Wilkinson, Jean; Wilkinson, Ned. **Come to Work with Us in a Hospital.** Milwaukee, Wis.: Sextant Systems, Inc. 1970. 46 pp. Full-color photos by Carl Roodman and color sketches by Roy Hunt. Grades k to 3. $4.50. Good.

In four-line rhymes, this book introduces young children to hospital careers. Illustrations show children dressing up in roles of admitting clerk, laundry manager, maintenance engineering, housekeeper, medical records librarian, dietitian, pharmacist, medical technologist, X-ray technician, occupational therapist, physical therapist, registered nurse, practical nurse, nursing aide, anesthetist, doctor, and hospital administrator. No attention is given to childrens' experiences in a hospital. Glossary at end. Large print.

*Wolde, Gunilla. **Tommy Goes to the Doctor.** Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company. 1972. 23 pp. Full-color illustrations by the author. Ages 2 to 5. $1.65 Excellent.

A visit to a lady pediatrician is described in a pleasant matter-of-fact manner, including undressing, weight and height, examination of throat and ears, listening to chest with a stethoscope, and receiving an injection. Tommy is encouraged to express his feelings and gets support from his mother and the doctor.

*Wolff, Angelika. **Mom! I Broke My Arm!** New York: The Lion Press, Inc. 1969. 45 pp. Three-color illustrations by Leo Glueckselig. Grades k to 4. $3.95. Excellent.

This realistic book tells about having a cast put on. Six-year-old Steven breaks his arm, goes to the doctor's office for X-rays, has a cast applied, wears it for 6 weeks, and has it removed. Discomforts of the casts are discussed in an honest, matter-of-fact manner. The book does not deal with a hospital experience.

10021

Publishers

Abingdon Press, 201 Eighth Avenue S., Nashville, Tenn. 37202.

Amecus Street, Inc., Affiliate of Creative Educational Society, Inc., Box 113, Mankato, Minn. 56001.

Behavioral Publications, Inc., 2852 Broadway, Morningside Heights, New York, N.Y. 10025.

Burke Publishing Company, Ltd., 73 Six Point Road, Toronto, 18, Ontario, Canada.

Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, Public Relations Department, 34th Street and Civic Center Boulevard, Philadelphia, Pa. 19104.

Coward-McCann & Geoghegan, Inc., 200 Madison Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10016.

Cowles Book Company, Inc., Subdivision of Henry Regnery Co., 114 W. Illinois Street, Chicago, Ill. 60610.

Crowell, Thomas Y., Company, 666 Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10019.

Denison, T. S. & Company, Inc., 5100 W. 82nd Street, Minneapolis, Minn. 55431.

Dodd, Mead & Company, 79 Madison Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10016.

Exposition Press, Inc., 50 Jericho Turnpike, Jericho, N.Y. 11753.

Franklin Watts, Inc., 845 Third Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10022.

Golden Press, Division of Western Publishing Co., 1220 Mound Avenue, Racine, Wis. 53404.

Grosset & Dunlap, Inc., 51 Madison Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10010.

Harcourt Brace & World, Inc., 757 Third Avenue, N.Y. 10017.

Harper & Row Publishers, 49 E. 33rd Street, New York, N.Y. 10016.

Houghton Mifflin Company, 1 Beacon Street, Boston, Mass. 02108.

John Street Press, 1315 John Street Park, Baltimore, Md. 21217.

Junior Women's Club, Mrs. Pat Casucci, 2475 Murphy Woods Road, Beloit, Wis. 53511.

The Lion Press, 52 Park Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10016.

Macmillan Publishing Co., Inc., 866 Third Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10022.

00025

McGraw-Hill Book Company, 1221 Avenue of the Americas, New York, N.Y. 10020.

Med-Educator, 645 N. Michigan Avenue, Suite 1000, Chicago, Ill. 60611.

Media Medica, 4 Midland Avenue, Hicksville, N.Y. 11801.

Medical Books for Children, Lerner Publications, 241 First Avenue N., Minneapolis, Minn. 55401.

Melmont Publishers, Inc., Children's Press, Division of Regensteiner Publishing Enterprises, Inc., 1224 W. Van Buren Street, Chicago, Ill. 60607.

NBGH Women's Auxiliary, Volunteer Office, New Britain General Hospital, 100 Grand Street, New Britain, Conn. 06050.

Norton, W. W. & Co., Inc., 55 Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10003.

Putnam, G. P., Sons 200 Madison Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10016.

Random House, 201 E. 50th Street, New York, N.Y. 10022.

Reilly & Lee, Division of Henry Regnery Co., 114 W. Illinois Street, Chicago, Ill. 60610.

Scholastic Book Services, Division of Scholastic Magazines, Inc., 2280 Arbor Boulevard, Dayton, Ohio 45439.

Sextant Systems, Inc., 639 S. 29th Street, Milwaukee, Wis. 53215.

Simon & Schuster, 630 Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10020.

Taylor Publishing Company, Box 597, Dallas, Tex. 75221.

Tompkins County Hospital Auxiliary, P.O. Box 23, Ithaca, N.Y. 14580.

Viking Press, 625 Madison Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10022.

Walker and Company, 720 Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10019.

Western Publishing Company, Inc., 1220 Mound Avenue, Racine, Wis. 53404.

00026

Index to Book Titles

16 About Miss Sue, the Nurse
10 Ambulance, The
11 Bettina's Secret
12 Clinic, The
18 Come to Work with Us in a Hospital
14 Curious George Goes to the Hospital
9 Danny Goes to the Hospital
10 Doctors and Nurses: What Do They Do?
12 Doctors' Tools
17 Elizabeth Gets Well
10 Emergency Room (Feagles)
12 Emergency Room, The (Kay)
9 First Book of Hospitals, The
13 Get-Well Coloring Book
11 Good-Bye Tonsils
16 Happy Hospital Surprises
8 Have a Happy Measle, A Merry Mumps and a Cheery Chickenpox
11 Hospital Book, The
9 Hospital: Life in a Medical Center, A
16 Hospital Story, A
15 I Know a Nurse
16 I Think I Will Go to the Hospital
15 I Went to the Hospital
12 Jimmy and Susie at the Hospital (A Child's First Hospital Stay)
15 Johnny Goes to the Hospital
7 Kenny Visits the Hospital
10 Let's Find Out About the Clinic
12 Let's Find Out About the Hospital
11 Let's Go to a Hospital (Hammond)
14 Let's Go to a Hospital (Rowland)
13 Let's Go to the Doctor's Office
13 Let's Visit the Hospital
10 Linda Goes to the Hospital
7 Madeline

8 Margaret's Heart Operation
8 Michael's Heart Test
8 Mom! I Broke My Arm!
14 My Doctor
17 My Friend the Doctor
12 Operating Room, The
13 Operation that Happened to Rupert Piper, The
8 Operation Timothy
9 Pop-Up Going to the Hospital
14 Richard Scarry's Nicky Goes to the Doctor
18 Tommy Goes to the Doctor
8 Visit to the Hospital, A
17 Wendy Well and Billy Better Say "Hello Hospital!"
17 Wendy Well and Billy Better Meet the Hospital Sandman
17 Wendy Well and Billy Better Visit the See Through Machines
17 Wendy Well and Billy Better Ask a "Mill-Yun" Hospital Questions
15 What Happens When You Go to the Hospital
8 Your Hospital, a Modern Miracle

09028

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